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Garner, James Wilford. *Introduction to Political Science.* Pp. 616. Price, \$2.50. New York: American Book Company, 1910.

Professor Garner gives us a uniformly excellent book. The field covered is broad, the discussion does not attempt to be exhaustive and the exposition is clear. These should be the characteristics of every book giving an introduction to a branch of study. One of the most valuable features, aside from the character of the text is the well selected bibliography which heads each chapter, and the excellent footnote references through the work. These cover the leading works in French, German and English. Especial emphasis is, of course, placed on American discussions, those most easily available to the student for whom the book is intended.

The subject matter covers six hundred pages, divided as follows: Preliminary definitions and discussions of political science, fifty pages; characteristics, origin and forms of the state, one hundred pages; forms of government, eighty pages; sovereignty, thirty pages; state functions, sixty pages; citizenship, thirty pages; constitutions, thirty pages; governmental departments, one hundred and sixty pages; the electorate, thirty pages.

This enumeration shows the scope of the discussion and the emphasis given different subjects. The space given to the phases of political science, which are a part of the student's experience, is to be commended. Citizenship, nationality, constitutions, division of the powers, the legislative, executive and judiciary, the electorate, these are subjects which can be discussed concretely, but are too often given summary, or purely theoretical treatment in introductory texts. In actual importance for the student they claim the chief place and can well be emphasized even if thereby the study of sovereignty, the true sphere of the state and kindred abstract subjects be assigned less space and left to the student of political theory. Professor Garner has placed college students, college professors and the general reader, much in his debt. As a college text and as a guidebook to the general literature of political science, the book is sure to win favor.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

O'Donnell, F. Hugh. *A History of the Irish Parliamentary Party.* Two volumes. Pp. xxi, 1002. Price, \$5.00. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1910.

A straightforward description of the Irish Parliamentary Party, whether from the standpoint of a supporter of methods employed, or as viewed by a dissenter, is sure to be welcomed by students of Irish politics. Mr. O'Donnell's participation in the Home Rule agitation in the earlier, or Butt period of the discussion, and his later exclusion from it, due to differences with Parnell and his following, fit him particularly for this work, and assure him a hearing. It is inevitable that the personal element should be much in evidence, so much so, indeed, as at times to cloud the real issues of the struggle. Yet it is exactly in this intimate revelation of the personal rela-

tions of Irish leaders that the book is of value to American readers who already know the general course of the agitation and its fluctuations, but who are ignorant of the inner motives of men and the suppressed courses of events. The author gives his own explanation of these things—an explanation that is argumentative and logical, but which is really the testimony of one who was at times an actor and at times a witness, but always a partisan. He was decidedly opposed to the policy and methods of Parnell, and is to-day equally opposed to the leadership of Redmond. Parnell in particular is depicted as a man of limited intellectual power and horizon. Isaac Butt was the great and sane leader of the party, and when that party forsook the principles of action prescribed by him, it entered upon a dangerous career. A great debasing influence in Irish politics was the contribution of money from America, and the introduction of American political methods of the Tammany stamp. Home Rule has become a mere shibboleth without a real constructive principle. Redmond's part in aiding the Liberal attack on the House of Lords has never received the support of the Irish people, and never has Ireland thought of a parliament of its own, save in terms of two houses.

These are a few of the assertions of Mr. O'Donnell, and indicate his non-content attitude with the present situation of Irish politics. He is an easy and attractive writer, a trifle discursive, but entertaining in matter and form. His two volumes contain rather a series of essays than a direct and orderly historical account. They at least furnish new and valuable evidence on Irish politics and on the relations of men during the period from 1870 to the present time.

EPHRAIM D. ADAMS.

Leland Stanford Jr. University.

Wilcox, Delos F. *Municipal Franchises.* Pp. xix, 710. Price, \$5.00. Rochester: Gervaise Press, 1910.

If the city is the battleground of democracy there can be no more fruitful field of study than the conditions under which our municipal property is managed. The use of our streets involves our closest contact with our governments. Those who enjoy special privileges in our highways undertake duties at once private and public, and their relation to the people at large is an index of the mental vigor of our citizenship. Too often our college classes are confined to fine-spun theories. Teachers and pupils alike shrink from the technical terms of franchises. The publication of such books as this will at least do away with the lame excuse that the subject matter is unattainable or beyond the ability of college classes. Two volumes are contemplated. The discussions are straightforward.

Analyses are given of the modes of acquiring franchise rights, of the value of franchises and the means of restricting public utility monopolies under private operation. Limitations of space confine the discussion to the United States. After this preliminary material the classes of franchises are taken up in order. Descriptions of typical franchises in actual operation are